

The Effect of Incorporating play Concept in Contemporary Kids' Furniture

Amany Mashour HENDY

Assistant prof, Interior Design and Furniture department, Faculty of Applied Arts, Damietta University, Egypt
Associate prof, Faculty of Engineering, Kingdom University, Bahrain

Ahmed Esmail Awad

Assistant prof, Interior Design and Furniture department, Faculty of Applied Arts, Damietta University, Egypt

Hagar Abd EL-Hamed EL-Labban

Post Graduate Stud, Interior Design and Furniture department, Faculty of Applied Arts, Damietta University, Egypt

Abstract:

Our current era is full of design ideas that increase every day by the increase of awareness-raising about the importance of designing qualified and effective products for human activities, especially for children, who are the seeds and the future of the society. Childhood is one of the most important stages in human life in which children are in constant physical and mental development and they are sensitive to stimuli, whether it is good or bad. It is an intensive period of learning in which they explore the world around them through their senses: sight, hearing, touch and smell. In everywhere around them, there is furniture precisely in their home and their educational institution that the children interact with them in their own way. It is designed from the perspective of adults that focuses on durability, safety, cost, appropriate dimensions without any sympathy and without paying attention to the child's behaviour and growth issues. Hence, the problem of research is that the furniture designed for children is a miniature model of the one designed for adults, without taking into account the mental, physical and emotional development. As a result, this helps in bringing up a child who lacks the spirit of creativity and innovation. The problem of these miniatures is that they are quickly damaged by the child because it does not fit with the child's growth, in addition to, costing the parents extra expenses and wasting the materials that can be reused in the same environment. The research aims to create a children-furniture language that expresses their desires, their age and their emotional development, through theoretical and analytical studies. Playing is a great method of learning and communicating with others in the time of the spread of autism amongst children, the long time they spend in front of their smart devices, and the decrease in their motor skills. Thus, the designer should integrate toys with children's furniture to become a tool that arouses their curiosity, stimulate their senses and help them socially communicate and develop their creative and emotional potential. As their age progresses, their interests develop, so it is important to understand how children of all ages interact with furniture when playing. One gets to understand this by knowing the importance of playing for the child, types of toys, differences in playing in each age group, how to combine children's furniture and toys and its impact on the growth and the development of the child and what is playing with the senses.

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